

REMARKS

With the addition of claims 17 and 18, claims 9-18 are now pending in the above-referenced application and are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

Claims 9-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,459,591 to Haubner et al. ("Haubner"). Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. Haubner pertains to an on-board vehicle communications network that includes a single communication line 8 (in the form of a light guide 15) and a power line 13, to which various vehicle devices such as headlights, blinkers, sensors, etc., are connected. Contrary to the Examiner's assertions in this rejection, Haubner does not teach "reactivating the switched-off device by the bus manager via a frequency pulse transmitted over a power supply line." In fact, nowhere in Haubner is there any teaching of a frequency pulse being transmitted over power line 13. All the pulses, instead, are transmitted over light guide 15. If the Examiner persists in maintaining this rejection, Applicants request that the Examiner specifically identify which portion of Haubner teaches the use of a frequency pulse over a power line to reactivate a device.

As for claims 10-16, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable for at least the same reason given in support of the patentability of claim 9.

Applicants have added new claims 17 and 18, which recite "switching off all functionality of a bit transmission layer of the device, except a functionality enabling the device to respond to the frequency pulse." Support for these claims is found at least in page 1 of the specification. Applicants submit that Haubner does not teach or suggest the invention of claims 17 or 18.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: 6/7/04

By: Richard L. Mayer (Reg. No. 41,172)
Richard L. Mayer
Reg. No. 22,490

One Broadway
New York, NY 10004
(212) 425-7200